

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 NEA-10

CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 CEQ-02

COA-02 COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 NSF-04 SCI-06 FEA-02

ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00

OMB-01 OIC-04 TRSE-00 NIC-01 DRC-01 /268 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6431

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTEVIDEO 1130

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, XM, UR

SUBJECT: LOS-SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN LATIN AMERICA

FROM LOS TEAM

LONDON AND PARIS FOR LOS DELS

1. SUMMARY: THIS CABLE SUMMARIZES ARGENTINE AND CHILEAN REMARKS
TO LOS TEAM REGARDING SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN LATIN AMERICA RE-
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GARDING LOS. SOVIETS HAVE TOLD LA COUNTRIES THAT THEY ARE PRE-

PARED TO ACCEPT 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE IN EXCHANGE FOR SUPPORT ON STRAITS AND POSSIBLY OTHER ISSUES. END SUMMARY.

2. BOTH CHILE AND ARGENTINA STATED THE FOLLOWING (PLEASE PROTECT):

A. FORMER SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO TRAVELING AS ONE-MAN DELEGATION IN LATIN AMERICA ON LOS. HE "SPEAKS EXCELLENT SPANISH" AND HAS BEEN DESIGNATED BY SOVIETS AS AN AMBASSADOR AT LARGE. WE UNDERSTAND HE IS IN THE POLICY AND PLANS SECTION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN MOSCOW.

B. MAIN MESSAGE IS THAT SOVIETS PREPARED TO ACCEPT 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE PROVIDED (1) CONSERVATION REGULATIONS (PRESUMABLY INCLUDING ALLOWABLE CATCH) ARE FIXED INTERNATIONALLY (ARGENTINA MENTIONED COMBINATION COASTAL STATE/FAO; CARACAS HAD MENTIONED NEW LOS INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITY); AND (2) FOREIGN FISHING IS PERMITTED WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION FOR THAT PORTION OF ALLOWABLE CATCH NOT HARVESTED BY THE COASTAL STATE. DISTINCTION BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COASTAL STATES, AND INCLUSION OF TRADITIONAL FISHING RIGHTS APPARENTLY NOT MENTIONED BY SOVIETS.

C. SOVIETS EXPECT QUID PRO QUO ON STRAITS AND NAVIGATION IN ZONE. (CARACAS MENTIONED QUID PRO QUO ON CONFERENCE PROCEDURES.)

D. SOVIETS MAKING POLITICAL USE OF INITIATIVE. CHILE EXPRESSED CLEAR POLITICAL CONCERN AND STATED IT WAS ESSENTIAL THAT THE U.S. "MAKE SOME STATEMENT" TO COUNTER THE SOVIET INITIATIVE. ARGENTINA ADMIRAL ROCCATAGLIATA SAID UNIFIED HEMISPHERIC LOS POSITION NOW "MORE IMPORTANT THAN ATLANTA MEETING".

3. CHILE SAYS SOVIETS SENT A NOTE TO PERU (CARACAS REPORTED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WITH PERU). SEMYON TSARAPKIN WAS PRESENT IN NAIROBI DURING MARCH GROUP OF 77 MEETING ON LOS, AND IN ESSENCE DELIVERED THE SAME MESSAGE ON ECONOMIC ZONE. (ACCORDING TO ZEGERS A SOVIET REP ATTENDED CLOSED WORKING GROUP MEETINGS FOR FIVE DAYS IN NAIROBI BEFORE OTHERS REALIZED HE WAS THERE.)

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4. ARGENTINA SAYS SOVIETS STATED THEY HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH COASTAL STATE JURISDICTION OVER THE CONTINENTAL MARGIN SEAWARD OF 200 MILES, AND THAT CUBA TOLD ARGENTINA IT COULD SUPPORT ARGENTINE POSITION ON MARGIN. IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT COMBINATION OF POLITICAL AND MILITARY FORCES IN MOSCOW PREVAILED ON, OR OVER, FISHERIES MINISTRY, AND THAT SOVIETS MAY BE ATTEMPTING TO LAY FOUNDATION FOR BILATERAL FISHERIES ARRANGEMENTS WITH COASTAL

STATES.

5. COMMENT: THE SOVIET INITIATIVE HAS PLACED U.S. IN A DIFFICULT POSITION IN THE HEMISPHERE, BOTH POLITICALLY AND IN LOS, AND IT IS CLEAR LATINS ARE ATTEMPTING TO USE THIS AS LEVERAGE ON U.S. ADDITIONALLY, U.S. MAY NOW FIND ITSELF IN A VERY DIFFICULT POSITION VIS-A-VIS JAPAN.

6. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REPEAT THIS CABLE TO OTHER ARA POSTS SINCE WE UNDERSTAND SOVIETS HAVE VISITED QUITO, LIMA, BUENOS AIRES, CARACAS, MEXICO CITY AND CUBA.
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